

Town of Mansfield Transportation Advisory Committee
Minutes of the Meeting – January 8, 2015 – Town Council Chambers

Present: Hultgren (chair), Marcellino, Ryan, Nowak, Aho, Millman, Taylor, Carrington (Director of Public Works, Ghassem-Zadeh (Town Manager's Office), Tanya Husick (UConn Transportation Planner)

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM and introductions were made. The minutes of the October 23, 2014 meeting were approved on a motion by Marcellino/Ryan.

The recommendations received from the ad-hoc group of Mansfield bicycle advocates to add road segments (listed below) to the Town's bike route system were received, discussed and endorsed by the committee on a motion by Aho/Taylor. These will now be forwarded to the Director of Public Works, the Director of Planning and the Planning and Zoning Commission for further action.

Recommended Additional Town Road Bike Routes:

All of the Storrs Center roadways, including

Dog Lane to the Greek Center

Charles Smith Way

Wilbur Cross Way

Bolton Road Extension

Royce Circle

Eastwood Road and the East Leg of Hillside Circle (connecting to the UConn campus)

Westwood Road and the West Leg of Hillside Circle (" ")

Bassetts Bridge Road

Browns Road from 195 to Mansfield City Road

Clover Mill Road (South loop from 195 and to Spring Hill Road)

Dodd Road

Mulberry Road

Wormwood Hill Road from 89 to Mulberry

Recommended State Highway Bike Designations:

(Recognizing that the state will have to approve and participate in these designations)

Route 195 from 32 to 44

195 from North Eagleville Road to South Eagleville Road

Route 195 from Clover Mill Road to Puddin Lane

Route 89 from 195 to Mulberry

The memo received from Gene Salorio suggesting three priority walkways for the Town's consideration was received and discussed (Hunting Lodge Rd between Separatist and North Eagleville or the end of Separatist north of Hunting Lodge Rd; South Eagleville Road from Maple to Separatist; and North Eagleville Road from Northwood Road to Bone Mill Road). After discussion they were referred to the public works and planning staff for a review and recommendation considering the new criteria for pedestrian/walkway projects (note: two of these segments are already on the priority listing).

Hultgren updated committee members on the activities of the ad-hoc bicycle advocates group as they pertained to the effort to have Mansfield designated a Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists. A series of workshops has been planned for this spring to cover minor bicycle maintenance, safe bike riding and new bicycle equipment.

Marcellino updated committee members on WRTD matters. He said that a management study was being done on the operations of the agency and that the new facility would be ready to be moved into this spring.

The draft UConn Campus Master Plan, which was referred to the committee for comment, was discussed. Members expressed both concerns and suggestions for the plan's improvement. Hultgren said he would compile the comments and circulate a draft for editing in the next couple of days, and asked that each member having comments please return them to him within 48 hours in order to make the January 16th deadline to respond to the referral. (Note: the final draft will be attached to the approved version of these minutes.)

The draft Mansfield Plan of Conservation and Development, also referred to the committee for comment, was discussed and members expressed suggestions for the plan's improvement. Hultgren said he would also compile these comments and circulate a draft for editing in the next few days, asking for a quick turn-back from members. (The final draft of this compilation will also be attached to the final version of these minutes.)

The following quarterly meeting schedule was approved for 2015: Meeting at 7 PM on the 2nd Thursday of the 1st month of each quarter (April 9, July 9 & October 8th). The Council Chambers was preferred if they are available on these dates.

Carrington updated committee members on Town transportation projects noting that the NZTC project grant was finally closed out, that the Route 275 sidewalk would be repaired this spring and the new bus shelter on 275 in front of the Community Center was under construction now.

Ghassem-Zadeh presented the Town Manager's interns' study regarding the marketing for the Nash Zimmer Transportation Center (NZTC). He said that the study suggested revamping the NZTC website to be more interactive and that a presence be established on popular social media. He also said that the NZTC could be a clearinghouse for all things transportation in Mansfield, including ride sharing and new and innovative transportation alternatives like Uber and Zim rides (no relation to the Zimmer in the Center's name!).

The next meeting was scheduled (as above) for Thursday April 9th. Requested items for the agenda include the role and image of the NZTC and information on ride sharing programs including Uber.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM on a motion by Aho/Taylor.

Respectfully submitted,

Lon Hultgren
Chair